

Washington, DC - Congressman John Adler announced \$719,600 in federal funds for Cherry Hill to purchase and install solar panels for the municipal building. This funding will support the community's efforts to invest in energy solutions that will strengthen the local economy and create jobs.

"These solar panels will lower energy costs for the township, reduce property taxes and create much-needed jobs in this tough economic climate," Congressman Adler said. "I look forward to supporting more programs that will spur job creation, help conserve energy and benefit local residents."

"Today, with the help of the Department of Energy, Rep. John Adler, and Sens. Menendez and Lautenberg, Cherry Hill can officially move forward with an unprecedented project on the roof of Town Hall that will harness the sun and technology to reduce our bottom line," said Cherry Hill Mayor Bernie Platt. "Once operational, this ambitious, solar and HVAC project will save Cherry Hill taxpayers more than \$100,000 annually in utility and operational expenses through the use of renewable energy and innovative heating and cooling technology. Furthermore, this project helps us create a green building that will shrink our overall carbon footprint and relinquish our dependence on variable energy rates through the utility company."

The money is being distributed through the Energy Efficiency Block Grants program, which is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In April, Congressman Adler joined Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg to announce more than \$285,000 for this project through the FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act.

According to local officials, solar energy captured by the panels -- spread across the 19,400-square-foot roof -- could trim about 20 percent from the power bill at the building. The solar panel project is part of a 10-point Green Action Plan the township council adopted in March 2008.

Congressman Adler recently voted in support of the bipartisan American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. This legislation will create 48,000 jobs in New Jersey and save taxpayers money on their monthly energy bill.